



USDA BROILER MARKET NEWS REPORT

ISSN 1522-0567

TUESDAY,
FEBRUARY 17, 2004
VOL. 51 NO. 20

U.S. Department of Agriculture

Agricultural Marketing Service

Poultry Programs

Market News Branch

NATIONAL BROILER MARKET AT-A-GLANCE



Majority prices were higher in the West, unchanged elsewhere. Trade sentiment was firm in the West, mostly steady in all other areas. Demand was light and spotty to fair, but moderate to fairly good for retail ads, fast food, and into restaurants. Supplies were usually sufficient with smaller sizes in the East close balanced. In the parts structure, trading was fair to moderate and mostly limited to regular commitments. Supplies of all items were irregular, but overall available. In production areas, live supplies were moderate. Weights were mixed, but mostly desirable to slightly heavier.

Final report of prices negotiated for trucklot sales of ready-to-cook broiler/fryers delivered to first receivers at major market areas week of 2/02/04-02/06/04 (cents per lb)

AREAS	US GRADE A (Includes branded product)		COMPOSITE	
	MAJORITY	WTD LOADS AVG	WTD LOADS AVG	
	Delivered to First Receivers			
Bos/New Eng	76.00-78.00	77.44	18	72.81 73
Chicago	69.00-72.00	72.45	43	73.98 82
Ohio Cities	TFEWR	—	—	71.44 30
Denver	76.50	76.35	15	76.54 18
Detroit	71.00-73.00	73.00	13	73.15 47
Los Angeles	77.00	77.62	63	77.82 141
New York	76.00-78.00	76.36	25	73.96 56
Philadelphia	75.50-77.00	76.17	12	74.37 23
Pittsburgh	76.00-78.00	76.75	12	74.02 60
St. Louis	72.00	71.66	20	70.56 46
San Francisco	77.50	78.49	35	76.88 93

Composite Weighted Average

Loads	02/16/04	Change/Last Wk	02/09/04	02/17/03
669	74.51	-0.90	75.41	60.26

WOG BROILERS (without giblets) - prices paid per lb delvd to first receivers in trucklot and less than trucklot quantities.

REGIONS	MAJORITY	WTD AV	LOADS
East	76.00-78.00	77.01	41
Central	70.00-77.00	75.81	73
West	74.00-78.50	77.22	43

Southeast Area FOB Dock Equivalent

Mississippi	70.00-73.00	71.91	82
-------------	-------------	-------	----

GEORGIA F.O.B. DOCK PRICES Georgia f.o.b. dock quoted price on broilers/fryers for this week's trading is 71.75 cents based on ice-packed USDA grade "A" sized 2 1/2 to 3 pound birds.

LOADS	RANGE	MONDAY FINAL WTD AVG FOB DOCK OR EQUIVALENT
1,050	66.00-76.00	71.12

The Georgia f.o.b. dock confirmed final weighted average prices on ice packed parts:

ITEM	WTD AVG (CENTS PER POUND)	VOLUME (000 POU)
LINE RUN TENDERS	215.50	1,480
BREASTS - B/S	191.00	5,762
BREASTS - WHOLE	99.50	1,992
THIGH MEAT - B/S	116.00	1,102
LEG QUARTERS	38.50	8,406
WINGS	120.00	3,076

THIS INFORMATION IS SUPPLIED BY THE GEORGIA DEPARTMENT OF AGRICULTURE'S POULTRY MARKET NEWS SERVICE.

NORTHEAST REGION BROILER/FRYER Trucklot buying activity on ready-to-cook whole broiler/fryers was generally fair at best. Offerings of the 3 pound and lighter weights were adequate to balanced. The heavier birds were at least sufficient. Retail and distributive movement was cautious and selective. The market tone was steady to fully steady on the 2.5 to 3 pound birds; about steady on the balance. In the parts complex, breast items were balanced to adequate. Dark meat cuts were sufficient, with boneless-skinless thighs noted as clearing well. Wings were no more than adequate and tenderloins were tight.

SOUTHERN REGION BROILER/FRYERS Trade sentiment was at least steady. Demand following the weekend was fair to moderate, best for retail feature activity and fast food specials. Supplies of all sizes were sufficient to well cleared for trade needs. In the parts structure, tenders were close to tight and held with confidence. Dark meat was barely adequate to well cleared and moving, and the remaining items were no more than adequate. In production areas, live supplies were moderate. Weights were in a full range, but mostly desirable.

WESTERN REGION BROILER/FRYERS The final majority prices were 1 cent higher throughout the region when compared to last week's levels. Reported trading for this week's deliveries were at higher prices overall. Offerings were adequate. Buying activity was moderate to good, best for WOGs where restocking was necessary and for bagged whole body to cover planned feature activities. Retailer demand was fairly good overall. Dealers reported good weekend clearances. Reported trading on parts for this week's delivery: leg quarters 40-43.5 bulk and 4/10s 43.5-47, breast bone-in 102-117 and boneless 176-190, wings 126-127. The Los Angeles negotiated WOG weighted average was 74.69 up 2.60 from last Mondays' level with the volume reported at 28 loads up 56 percent.

MIDWEST REGION BROILER/FRYER Final majority prices were unchanged; Ohio cities TFEWR from last Monday's final. The market tone on whole broilers was mostly steady. Offerings, though limited were sufficient for very light trade needs. Demand into retail and food service channels was generally light and spotty; occasionally fairly good into some retail, fast food and restaurants. Floor stocks were in balance to long. Weights desirable to slightly heavy. Supplies of all parts were in close balance to adequate. The market tone was fully steady to firm on all parts.

DELMARVA BROILER/FRYERS Movement of ready-to-cook whole birds was slow to moderate. Seller offerings were generally adequate. Live supplies were moderate; weights were irregular. Processor schedules were moderate. Less than trucklot asking prices were unchanged at 77 to 87 cents. Trade sentiment was steady. In the parts complex, breast cuts were generally adequate and in fairly good balance. Leg items were balanced to fully adequate. ACTUAL SLAUGHTER WEEK ENDING 02/14/2004 WAS 10,777,027 @ 5.36 LBS.

*BROILER/FRYER CURRENT NEGOTIATED PRICES FOR IMMEDIATE DELIVERY INCLUDES MOSTLY MULTIPLE-DROP SHIPMENTS OF BRANDED AND WING TAGGED TO NEW YORK CITY FROM DELMARVA.

	BRANDED U.S. GRADE A	
	02/17/04	02/16/04
RANGE	69-88	69-89
WEIGHTED AVERAGE	78.79	78.90
NO. OF BOXES	4,730	7,919

*7 of 7 plants reporting.

NORTHEAST BROILER/FRYER PARTS Trucklot buying activity was cautious and selective as dealers saw no need to extend floor stocks beyond normal commitments. Offerings of breast items were adequate to balanced for current needs. Dark meat cuts were sufficient, although, boneless-skinless thigh meat was clearing well. Wings were balanced. Tenderloins were tight. Movement through retail channels was noted as lackluster. Distributive draw was mostly hand-to-mouth. The market tone was fully steady to firm on boneless-skinless thighs and tenderloins; mostly steady on the balance.

ICE PACKED BROILER/FRYER PARTS, DELIVERED TO FIRST RECEIVERS IN POOL TRUCKLOT AND TRUCKLOT QUANTITIES, CENTS PER POUND

ITEM	NEGOTIATED	TRADING	CURRENT	WTD	VOLUME
				AVG	/LBS
BREAST - B/S			185	181.96	485,222
TENDERLOINS			185-190	181.22	67,080
BREAST - WITH RIBS			95-96	101.93	108,360
BREAST - LINE RUN			95	98.74	79,640
LEGS			47-48	53.90	219,120
LEG QUARTERS (BULK)			38-39	39.45	255,640
DRUMSTICKS			40-41	47.92	122,800
THIGHS			41-42	51.08	36,360
B/S THIGHS			109-110	114.82	27,960
WINGS (WHOLE)			114-115	123.65	58,550
BACKS AND NECKS (STRIPPED)			10-12	11.92	31,280
LIVERS (5 POUND TUBS)			35-40	38.02	10,080
GIZZARDS (HEARTS)			60-65	69.80	20,360

INCLUDES NEW YORK CITY METROPOLITAN AREA, NORTHERN NEW JERSEY, MASSACHUSETTS, CONNECTICUT, RHODE ISLAND, AND PENNSYLVANIA (NORTHEAST OF HARRISBURG).

* TODAY'S NEGOTIATED SALES AS OF 11:30 A.M.

** WEIGHTED AVERAGE PRICE OF ALL GRADES AND BRANDS OF PRODUCT SHIPPED, OR TO BE SHIPPED AS OF 1:30 P.M.

ARKANSAS BROILER/FRYER PARTS F.O.B. DOCK OR EQUIVALENT, ICED-PACKED, PRICES SHOWN ARE DAY OF SHIPMENT (INCLUDES CURRENT AND PRIOR NEGOTIATIONS), TRUCKLOT AND LESS THAN TRUCKLOT VOLUME, CENTS PER POUND.

ITEM	LBS (000)	RANGE	MAJORITY	WT. AVG
BREAST - B/S	800	174.00-191.00	180-186	184.35
TENDERLOINS	260	185.00-210.00	191	190.62
BREAST - WITH RIBS		NO TRADING REPORTED		
FRONT HALVES		NO TRADING REPORTED		
LEGS		NO TRADING REPORTED		
LEG QUARTERS (BULK)	920	36.00-38.00	36	36.17
LEG QUARTERS (4/10)	2,640	37.00-39.00	38-39	38.17
WINGS (WHOLE)		NO TRADING REPORTED		
DRUMSTICKS		NO TRADING REPORTED		
THIGHS	920	39.00-43.00	40-42	40.13

**ESTIMATED SLAUGHTER OF BROILER-FRYERS (IN THOUSANDS)
FOR MONDAY 16-Feb-04**

	ESTIMATE	ACTUAL	AVG WTS	ACTUAL	AVG WTS
	02/16	02/12	02/12	02/09	02/05
ALA	3,527	3,888	5.14	3,667	5.07
ARK	5,320	5,222	4.97	5,327	4.92
DELMARVA	2,191	2,219	5.32	2,159	5.36
LA-TENN	1,964	1,998	5.03	2,005	4.98
MISS	2,986	3,004	5.31	3,085	5.27
NC	2,276	2,347	6.22	2,369	6.25
TEXAS	2,248	2,341	5.11	2,207	5.10
TOTAL	20,512	21,019	5.25	20,819	5.23
MON	20,512(A)			20,819(A)	

(A) Weekly cumulative for states listed above.

Broiler-fryer slaughter under federal inspection for 16-Feb-2004 is estimated to be 30,688,000 down 1.77 percent from a week ago and up 22.4 a year ago.

(Last week 31,241,000, last year 25,067,000)

SOUTHERN STATES BROILER/FRYER PARTS F.O.B. DOCK OR EQUIVALENT, ICED-PACKED, PRICES SHOWN ARE DAY OF SHIPMENT (INCLUDES CURRENT AND PRIOR NEGOTIATIONS), TRUCKLOT AND LESS THAN TRUCKLOT VOLUME, CENTS PER POUND.

ITEM	POUNDS (000)	RANGE	MAJORITY	WTD AVG
BREAST - B/S	885	182.00-260.00	182-186	184.91
TENDERLOINS	206	190.00-235.00	190-194	196.49
BREAST - LINE RUN	108	96.00-101.00	96-98	98.14
FRONT HALVES		TOO FEW TO REPORT		
LEGS	103	54.00-58.00	54-56	55.86
LEG QUARTERS (BULK)	578	35.00-39.50	37-38	37.28
LEG QUARTERS (4/10)	1,662	38.00-43.00	39-40	39.35
WINGS (WHOLE)	281	119.00-124.00	119-120	120.33
WINGS (CUT)	418	132.00-147.00	134-137	137.14
DRUMSTICKS		TOO FEW TO REPORT		
THIGHS		TOO FEW TO REPORT		
B/S THIGHS		TOO FEW TO REPORT		

WHOLE BODY INDEX BASED ON SOUTHERN STATES PARTS TRADING FOR FEBRUARY 17, 2004 — F.O.B. DOCK.

RANGE	TODAY'S AVERAGE
65.50 - 72.25	68.95

The Index is intended solely as an indicator of values for commodity-type product and does not represent industry's willingness to sell or ability to buy.

MIDWEST REGION BROILER/FRYER ICE-PACKED POOL TRUCKLOT AND TRUCKLOT QUANTITIES DELIVERED TO IL, IN, IA, KS, MI, MN MO, NE, ND, OH, SD, AND WI WEEK OF 16-FEB-2004 TO 20-FEB-2004, CENTS PER POUND

	Price Per Lb.	Mostly
BREAST - B/S	178.00 - 195.00	178.00 - 188.00
BREAST - LINE RUN	96.00 - 111.00	96.00 - 101.00
LEGS	55.00 - 60.00	-
LEG QUARTERS (BULK)	36.00 - 41.00	38.00 - 39.00
DRUMSTICKS	39.00 - 55.00	-
THIGHS	41.00 - 55.00	-
WINGS (WHOLE)	115.00 - 131.00	118.00 - 121.00
BACKS AND NECKS (STRIPPED)	12.00 - 20.00	-
LIVERS	30.00 - 41.00	-
GIZZARDS (HEARTS)	35.00 - 45.00	-

**SOUTHERN CALIFORNIA (L.A. AREA) PROCESSED POULTRY,
DELIVERED TO RESTAURANTS AND INSTITUTIONS**

	RANGE
WOGS 2# & UP - WHOLE	89
WOGS 2# & UP - CUT UP 8&9 PIECES	92-96

FROZEN HENS 5# & UP
FROZEN DUCKS
FROZEN SQUABS 585-600

DELIVERED TO RETAILERS IN SOUTHERN CALIFORNIA (L.A. AREA)

FRESH FRYERS	93-99
ROASTERS 4# & UP	95-105
HENS UNDER 5#	
HENS OVER 5#	71-77
DUCKS	
RABBITS-WHOLE	
RABBITS-CUT UP	

**SAN FRANCISCO PROCESSED POULTRY
DELIVERED TO RESTAURANTS AND INSTITUTIONS**

FRESH FRYERS	ICE PACK	102-103
	DRY PACK	104-106
ROASTERS 4# & UP	ICE PACK	109
	DRY PACK	105
HENS OVER 5#	ICE PACK	93
	DRY PACK	93-95
DUCKS		152-175

EASTERN REGION MECHANICALLY SEPARATED CHICKEN

F.O.B. SHIPPER DOCK OR EQUIVALENT, PRICES NEGOTIATED FOR MECHANICALLY SEPARATED CHICKEN IN THE EASTERN REGION IN TRUCKLOT AND LESS THAN TRUCKLOT VOLUMES, CENTS PER POUND, DELIVERY WITHIN TWO WEEKS.

13-FEB-2004

CHICKEN — PRICES — VOLUME —
(Cents per Pound)

FAT	CONTENT	FROZEN	FRESH	TOTAL	EXPORT
15% OR LESS					
RANGE		-	-	-	-
WTD AVERAGE					

CHICKEN WITH SKIN ADDED — PRICES — VOLUME —
(Cents per Pound)

FAT	CONTENT	FROZEN	FRESH	TOTAL	EXPORT
15% OR LESS					
RANGE	13.50-16.50		15.00	1,366,000	938,000
WTD AVERAGE	15.14		15.00		
15-20%					
RANGE	15.50-19.00		12.50-14.00	1,960,000	728,000
WTD AVERAGE	16.82		12.98		
20% OR MORE					
RANGE	-		12.00	20,000	-
WTD AVERAGE			12.00		

* INCLUDES THE STATES of CT, DE, FL, GA, MA, MD, ME, NC, NH, NJ, NY, PA, RI, SC, VA, VT, WV

SOUTHEAST HEAVY LIVE HEN Majority prices were unchanged when compared to a week earlier. Demand was at least moderate for offerings that were generally adequate. Processing schedules were normal. Supplies of finished product were well cleared. The undertone was at least steady.

HEAVY TYPE HENS (7 POUNDS AND UP) *
FINAL PRICE, CENTS PER LB., GENERALLY FOR SLAUGHTER THE WEEK OF 16-FEB-04

	RANGE CENTS/LB.	MAJORITY	WTD AVG
AT FARM BUYER LOADING	6-9.5	8.5-9	8.75
AT FARM PRODUCER LOADING	TOO FEW TO REPORT		
FOB PLANT	TOO FEW TO REPORT		

*WEIGHTS UNDER 7 LBS. SUBJECT TO DISCOUNT.

CENTRAL REGION MECHANICALLY SEPARATED CHICKEN

F.O.B. SHIPPER DOCK OR EQUIVALENT, PRICES NEGOTIATED FOR MECHANICALLY SEPARATED CHICKEN IN THE CENTRAL REGION IN TRUCKLOT AND LESS THAN TRUCKLOT VOLUMES, CENTS PER POUND, DELIVERY WITHIN TWO WEEKS.

13-FEB-2004

CHICKEN — PRICES — VOLUME —
(Cents per Pound)

FAT	CONTENT	FROZEN	FRESH	TOTAL	EXPORT
15% OR LESS					
RANGE		-	-	-	-
WTD AVERAGE					

CHICKEN, WITH SKIN ADDED — PRICES — VOLUME —
(Cents per Pound)

FAT	CONTENT	FROZEN	FRESH	TOTAL	EXPORT
15% OR LESS					
RANGE	13.50-14.00		13.00-15.00	182,400	-
WTD AVERAGE	13.83		14.00		
15-20%					
RANGE	14.00-17.00		10.50-14.00	2,166,000	805,600
WTD AVERAGE	14.48		11.73		
20% OR MORE					
RANGE	-		-	-	-
WTD AVERAGE					

* INCLUDES THE STATES of AL, AR, IA, IL, IN, KS, KY, LA, MI, MN, MO, MS, ND, NE, OK, OH, SD, TN, TX, WI

SOUTH CENTRAL HEAVY LIVE HEN Trading was generally unchanged compared to the past week. Demand was moderate for fully adequate offerings from production areas. Schedules were normal. Finished sales were fair. Trade sentiment was at least steady.

HEAVY TYPE HENS (7 POUNDS AND UP) *
FINAL PRICE, CENTS PER LB., GENERALLY FOR SLAUGHTER THE WEEK OF 16-JAN-04

	RANGE CENTS/LB.	MAJORITY	WTD AVG
AT FARM BUYER LOADING	6.75-11.75	8.5-9.25	9.05

*WEIGHTS UNDER 7 LBS. SUBJECT TO DISCOUNT.

**USDA, AMS, POULTRY PROGRAMS,
POULTRY MARKET NEWS OFFICES**

Washington, DC	Voice	(202)720-6911	Mike Sheats
	Fax	(202)720-2403	(Branch Chief)
Atlanta, GA	Voice	(404)562-5850	Johnny Freeman
	Fax	(404)562-5875	(Officer-In-Charge)
Jackson, MS	Recorded	(404)562-5856	
	Voice	(601)965-4662	Gary Brown
Des Moines, IA	Fax	(601)965-4661	(Southern States Area Supervisor)
	Voice	(515)284-4471	Mary L. Adkins
Los Angeles, CA	Fax	(515)284-4468	(Officer-In-Charge)
	Recorded	(515)284-4545	
Los Angeles, CA	Voice	(213)534-1330	Jim Derby
	Fax	(213)534-1333	(Officer-In-Charge)
	Recorded	(213)534-1335	